

Kansas Preservation

Summer 2009 • Volume 31, Number 3

REAL PLACES. REAL STORIES.



Kansas Archeology Training Program

See story on page 19.





Newsletter of the Cultural
Resources Division
Kansas Historical Society

Summer 2009

Contents

1

National Register Nominations

5

Abilene Downtown Historic District

10

Legislature Caps State Rehabilitation
Tax Credits

11

Revised Deadlines for Two Grant Programs

12

A Walk in the Park

16

History in the Classroom

19

Waldo Wedel's Archeological Sites in Kansas

KANSAS PRESERVATION

Published quarterly by the Kansas Historical
Society, 6425 SW 6th Avenue,
Topeka KS 66615-1099.

Please send change of address information
to the above address or email
cultural_resources@kshs.org.

Third class postage paid at Topeka, Kansas.

Governor Mark Parkinson
Jennie Chinn, State Historic Preservation Officer
Patrick Zollner, Deputy SHPO, Editor
Linda Kunkle Park, Graphic Designer

Partial funding for this publication is provided by
the National Park Service, Department of the
Interior. The contents and opinions do not
necessarily reflect the views or policies of the
Department of the Interior, nor does the mention
of trade names or commercial products
constitute an endorsement or recommendation
by the Department of Interior.

This program receives federal funds from the
National Park Service. Regulations of the U.S.
Department of the Interior strictly prohibit
unlawful discrimination in departmental federally
assisted programs on the basis of race, color,
national origin, age, or handicap. Any person who
believes he or she has been discriminated against in
any program activity or facility operated by a
recipient of federal assistance should write to:
Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service,
1849 C Street NW, Washington DC 20240.



Preservation in the News

Connect with Preservation Community

The Kansas Historical Society launched an email-based listserve aimed at bringing together people interested in preservation. They may be people who own buildings; serve on local preservation commissions; own businesses; serve as designers, contractors, local governments, and advocates; or have an interest in history and the built environment.

Listserve members make announcements, bring attention to local and statewide issues, offer creative solutions, and share success stories. Joining is free and easy. Visit kshs.org and select "Preserving Kansas" in the Historic Preservation section.

On Preserving Kansas you can:

- Get the word out about an endangered property
- Look for hard-to-find material
- Announce an upcoming local preservation event
- Share an innovative solution to a preservation problem

Cover photos courtesy Dan Rowlinson, Auburn.

National Register Nominations

The Historic Sites Board of Review voted to list one property in the Register of Historic Kansas Places and to nominate nine to the National Register of Historic Places at its regular meeting in May. The nominations will be forwarded to the Washington, D.C., office for review.

by Sarah Martin

National Register Coordinator, Kansas Historical Society

Abilene Downtown Historic District – Abilene, Dickinson County

As county seat and, with the arrival of the railroad, as the railhead for the Chisholm Trail, Abilene grew to become a major railroad agricultural market center in Dickinson County and in Kansas. The physical and architectural development of the downtown commercial center reflects the importance of the railroad in the community's commercial history. The arrangement of the railroad grade dictated the location and arrangement of industrial buildings, commercial businesses, and institutional buildings. At the turn of the 20th century Abilene embraced the City Beautiful Movement with the construction of several Classical

Revival-style government and institutional buildings including the city hall, auditorium, post office, and the Carnegie Library. The vast majority of the extant buildings in the district served retail sales and commercial service functions, many of which had mixed uses and included ground floor sales and service spaces with storefronts and second-story spaces to accommodate meeting halls, offices for professional services, and residential apartments. The downtown historic district is nominated for its associations with the growth and development of Abilene as a county seat and railroad market center and its representation of popular architectural styles.



Left to right, Abilene Post Office, circa 1930 and today, Dickinson County.

The National Register of Historic Places is the country's official list of historically significant properties. Properties must be significant for one or more of the four criteria for evaluation. Under Criterion A, properties can be eligible if they are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. Under Criterion B, properties can be eligible if they are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. Under Criterion C, properties can be eligible if they embody the distinctive characteristic of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. Under Criterion D, properties may be eligible for the National Register if they have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. The National Register recognizes properties of local, statewide, and national significance.

Dodge City Downtown Historic District – Dodge City, Ford County

Downtown Dodge City's livelihood has depended upon its ability to reinvent itself. While its roots stretch back to the days of the Santa Fe Trail, the downtown area developed with the coming of the Santa Fe railroad and later redeveloped with the growth of Highway 50. While Dodge City was remaking itself, the entertainment industry was capitalizing on its place in American popular culture as the stereotypical Wild West town. By the mid 20th century, the city's efforts to live down its rowdy past were overwhelmed by the potential for capitalizing on it. The district encompasses much of the downtown area and includes the historic brick streets and commercial, civic, and religious buildings reflective of architectural styles from various periods of development. The Historic Sites Board of Review discussed including the 1958 replica of the city's infamous Front Street within the district boundaries, but opted to remove it from this nomination. Dodge City's downtown is nominated for its reflection of historic architectural styles and its association with the development of Dodge City from its days as a railroad hub through the post World War II era of the mid-20th century.



Dodge City Downtown Historic District, Ford County

pioneer hardware dealer, banker, and philanthropist. The building's architects were Charles Crosby Miller and Joseph A. Thain of Chicago. However, their level of involvement in the church's design is unknown. The building is nominated for its architectural significance as a good local example of Romanesque Revival architecture.

First Presbyterian Church – 202 N Summit, Girard, Crawford County

The First Presbyterian Church was built in 1888 in a residential neighborhood one block north of Girard's courthouse square. The congregation organized in 1869 and purchased the land on which this building sits in 1870. Their original frame building was destroyed by a tornado in 1886 prompting the congregation to erect this larger masonry structure. Among the members who contributed to the rebuilding effort were Henry and Sarah Alice Haldeman, who owned the State Bank of Girard, and John E. Raymond, a

Pryor House – 263 S Pershing Avenue, Wichita, Sedgwick County

This Colonial Revival-style residence was built in 1928 and is located in Wichita's College Hill neighborhood. It was built by residential real estate developers Walter L. Morris & Son as part of the Lincoln Heights subdivision, which they platted in 1927. City building permit files suggest the firm built approximately 20 residences in the Lincoln Heights subdivision. Ralph J. Pryor, an independent oil producer, purchased the home and lived there until 1943. The house is nominated as part of the *Residential Resources of Wichita 1870-1957* multiple property nomination for its association with the development of the neighborhood and for its Colonial Revival-style architecture.



Left to right, First Presbyterian Church, Crawford County; Pryor House, Sedgwick County.

Winders Historic District – 1038-1040, 1044, and 1045 S. Topeka Avenue, Wichita, Sedgwick County

This small residential historic district is nominated as part of the *Residential Resources of Wichita 1870-1957* multiple property nomination for its association with four generations of the Winders family and their laundry business, and for its representation of architectural styles between 1890 and 1939. The district is located in the Orme and Phillips Addition in Wichita's South Central neighborhood, and includes a Folk Victorian cottage, a Craftsman bungalow, a World War II-era brick duplex, and two outbuildings. Elias Winders moved into the neighborhood in 1886 and in 1904 his son Harry opened the Wichita Wet Wash Laundry in a building behind his house at 1044 S. Topeka Avenue. After Harry's death in 1932, his son Ira managed the family business until 1943 when he sold it. The fourth generation of Winders occupies the house at 1044 S. Topeka Avenue.



Van Arsdale House – 201 N. Broadview, Wichita, Sedgwick County

Designed by architect Lorentz Schmidt and completed in 1922, this Italian Renaissance Revival-style house was home to prominent businessman William Van Arsdale. It is located in the College Hill neighborhood, which experienced a building boom during the 1920s and 1930s. Unique architectural features of this two-story brick residence include the open arcaded porches with stone columns and capitals with a Chinese dragon fish motif, two decorative brick chimneys, and a low-pitched roof with red Spanish tile. The house is nominated as part of the *Residential Resources of Wichita 1870-1957* multiple property nomination for its association with the development of the neighborhood and for its Italian Renaissance Revival-style architecture.



Loomis-Parry Residence – 1003 S. State Street, Augusta, Butler County

Built in 1917, the Loomis-Parry Residence is located north of downtown Augusta in a neighborhood of large late 19th and early 20th century single-family residences. Widower Henrietta Loomis commissioned the construction of the house for herself and her daughter Grace. The Loomis family, traditionally farmers, owned land in Butler County where oil was discovered in the early 1900s. Income generated from the oil financed the construction of this residence in Augusta. No reference to the architect or builder has been found in local histories, newspapers, or family documents. Nevertheless, the house's architecture features a distinct combination of several



Top to bottom, Winders Historic District, Sedgwick County; Van Arsdale House, Sedgwick County; Loomis-Parry Residence, Butler County.



Left to right, Lipp Barn, Trego County; Plymouth Congregational Church, Douglas County.

popular early 20th century styles including Craftsman, Tudor Revival, and Classical Revival. It has remained in the same family since 1917, and is nominated for its architecture.

Lipp Barn – Collyer vicinity, Trego County

The Lipp Barn is located adjacent to the I-70 interchange at Collyer in the northwest corner of Trego County. It was built in 1917 by the Lipp family, Volga-German immigrants who came to the region with other Volga-German families in 1901. The Lipp Barn typifies the Midwest Prairie style with its center-aisle plan with flanking shed bays, wide sweeping roofline, and large haymow and gambrel-shaped roof designed to maximize hay storage. Originally constructed to house horses, livestock, hay, and grain, the barn has experienced only minor changes as it has adapted to evolving agricultural practices and technology. It is nominated as part of the *Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas* multiple property nomination for its architecture and its association with local agricultural history.

Plymouth Congregational Church – 925 Vermont, Lawrence, Douglas County

Built in 1870, Lawrence's Plymouth Congregational Church was designed by prominent Kansas architect John G. Haskell, who is known for his contributions to the design of the Kansas State Capitol and area schools, churches, courthouses, and commercial buildings. The congregation dates back to Lawrence's earliest pre-Civil War days. The first church service was held October 1, 1854, in a mud brick boarding house, just weeks after the first groups of New England settlers arrived. Work began on this building in 1868 and was completed in May 1870. Church services have occurred in this building continuously since 1870. It is nominated for its architectural significance as an eclectic Victorian-era

church building with Gothic and Romanesque Revival characteristics.

The following property was approved for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places.

Parker House Hotel – 116 W. Second, Minneapolis, Ottawa County

Built in 1887, the two-story Parker House Hotel building is located at the east end of downtown Minneapolis. Topeka-based businessman Nathan F. Handy originally developed the property to serve several commercial purposes. Early in the building's history, the Corn State Bank operated out of the first floor for only a few years and various businesses including a grocery, millinery, and offices occupied other parts of the building. In the late 1890s the building was redeveloped into a hotel and served this function until the mid-20th century when it was converted to apartments. It is currently vacant and used for storage. It is nominated for its association with local social history and the development of downtown Minneapolis.



Parker House Hotel, Ottawa County.



Abilene Downtown Historic District

Aerial View of Abilene, 1930-1940s.

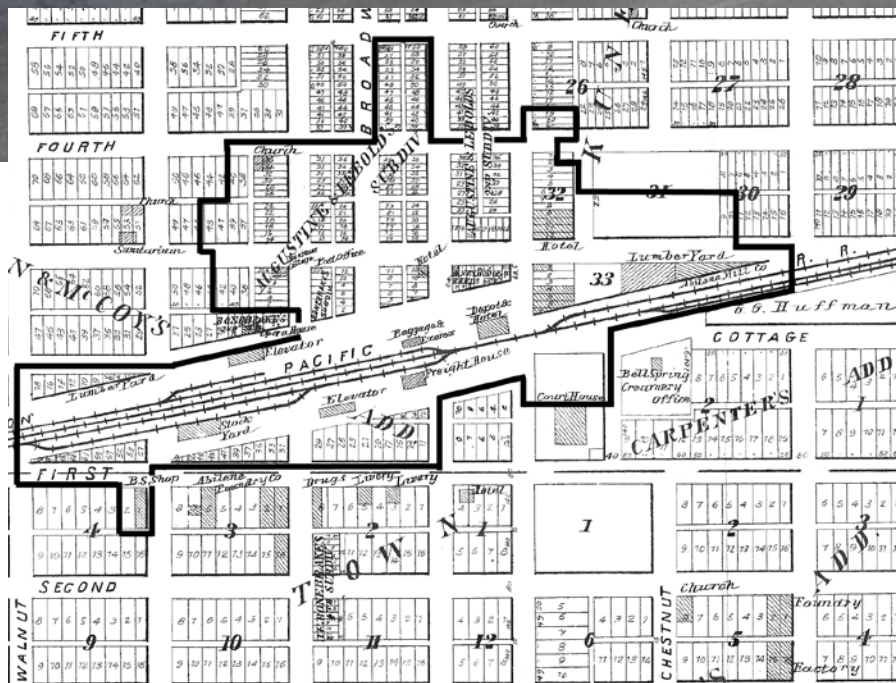
What do you think of when you hear the name “Abilene, Kansas?” The answer for most non-Kansans would probably be the Chisholm Trail and the rough and tumble Texas cattle drives that spawned legendary saloons (The Pearl), hotels (Drovers’ Cottage), and frontier law enforcement (“Wild Bill” Hickok). Kansans are more likely to think of the boyhood home of President Dwight D. Eisenhower — the small Kansas community that shaped an international military hero and the 34th president of the United States. People near Abilene may invoke visions of a downtown with destination dining, high quality specialty shops, and retained historical architecture.

There is no right answer or single overriding theme to Abilene’s history; all contribute to the diversity of travelers visiting this Dickinson County community. Today, Abilene’s historic downtown reflects its distinct historical eras and development patterns. An inventory and National Register nomination of the Abilene Downtown Historic District recently documented this history. The project was partially funded by a 2008 Historic Preservation Fund Grant administered through the Kansas Historical Society.

Abilene has not always touted or respected its rich history. Efforts in the 1950s and 1960s to present the appearance of an up-to-date city with historical traditions occurred as a result of the national interest in President Eisenhower’s hometown. The city organized to make the most of its enviable position by telling the Eisenhower story through new attractions and modernization. These activities, in turn, stimulated a group to capitalize on the Texas cattle drive years through recreation at Old Abilene Town.



Above, Case building, 212 N. Broadway, Abilene; plat map of downtown Abilene. (Dark line denotes Historic District boundary)



Despite these efforts, by the early 1980s many of the grand historic homes and downtown commercial buildings were underused and in general disrepair, reflecting regional economics, apathy, and disinvestments. However, by the middle of the decade, a strong preservation ethic emerged. Brothers Terry and Jerry Tietjens brought dreams of preserving the Seelye Mansion as a tour home. Merle Vahsholtz began preservation work on the Lebold Mansion and Lynda Scheele became a strong advocate for preservation and founded the Abilene Heritage Homes Association.

By the end of the 20th century Abilene's preservation movement developed into an institutionalized function of the community. In 1997 the city commission adopted a

preservation ordinance and appointed a heritage commission to administer the ordinance and be an advocacy group for preservation. On June 30, 1997, Abilene became a Certified Local Government (CLG) as part of a national and state program providing training and funding opportunities. Currently there are 19 properties, three districts, and one National Historic Landmark listed in the National Register of Historic Places within the city of Abilene.

These efforts were not able to save all of Abilene's significant resources. Two properties with associations to Eisenhower were demolished. In 1999 the Plaza Theater building in downtown Abilene collapsed due to neglect and in 1998 the Belle Springs Creamery, which was listed in the



Perring Building, 118 N.W. 2nd Street, Abilene

National Register of Historic Places, was demolished before it collapsed. These and other losses scarred downtown Abilene and are a reminder that the preservation of historic buildings is necessary to save tangible reminders of a community's history and promote a unique sense of place—a vibrant, viable downtown.

An early goal of establishing an Abilene Downtown National Register Historic District remained elusive until the heritage commission proposed the project and the city commission agreed to provide matching funds for the grant. While the city commission expressed support for preservation, securing municipal funding hinged on two issues: property owner support and the economic benefits of establishing the district. Although proponents did not contact every property owner in the study area individually to discuss the project, more than a majority of the study area owners endorsed a statement of support. Signatures collected from 75 percent of the property owners showed that 81 percent of the signers were in favor of the project. Several

public workshops on the federal and state historic preservation tax credit programs presented by the State Historic Preservation Office's staff served as a primer for both property owners and city officials. When historic tax credit incentives are combined with the local Neighborhood Revitalization Property Tax Rebate program, the feasibility and benefits of investing to save significant aging structures and make reuse of these buildings becomes apparent.

Commercial Significance

The origin of Abilene's central business district can be traced back to the westward expansion associated with the evolution of the transcontinental railroad after the Civil War. The first permanent settler, Timothy Hersey, settled near a natural low-water crossing on the banks of Mud Creek about a mile from where it entered the Smoky Hill River. During the years when Kansas was a territory, frequent travel on the Smoky Hill and Military Road brought many travelers to the Hersey doorstep. The rugged pioneer soon saw the benefit of developing a town site and selling off lots to entrepreneurs keen on making their fortunes in the West.

One such fortune seeker was Joseph G. McCoy, who sought a location to join the Texas Longhorn cattle trails with eastern rail connections. He established his site in Abilene and in 1867 the first longhorn cattle arrived in Abilene to be sold to buyers from eastern markets. A community quickly formed on Hersey's original town plat. Within a few short years, however, the cattle trade moved farther west and many of the town's frame buildings were dismantled and moved by train to the next railhead. A "new" Abilene grew up near the original town, north of the railroad tracks.

Located in Grant Township in Dickinson County, Abilene's role in the 1860s as the county seat and as the railhead for the Chisholm Trail grew in the late 19th and early 20th centuries to that of a major agricultural market center in the state. The Abilene Downtown Historic District reflects the role of Abilene as an important commercial center during an era in which America became a major economic power as the result of the expanding railroad system and the enormous growth of its population. This period created national

markets for the agricultural products of the region. Abilene's railroad freight depot and yards received what farmers harvested and stockmen raised in the surrounding area—livestock, grain, fruits—passed them on or processed them into products people needed locally, or for an additional fee, shipped them to competitive markets outside the region. At the same time the city's business concerns received manufactured and processed goods from the East, stored them (for a fee), and reallocated them (for a fee) to markets in the region and farther west. Today the district serves as a tangible reminder of the importance of organized public and private entrepreneurship that enabled Abilene to compete with a regional network of villages, towns, and cities, and to attract and dominate investment. The individuality and evolution of the retail stores, offices, banks, and hotels; the courthouse and city hall; the special use institutional, manufacturing, and processing facilities; warehouses and wholesale houses; and railroad freight- and passenger-related buildings and structures gave Abilene's downtown and the community itself its unique collective image.

The 45-acre Abilene Downtown Historic District encompasses the city's largest intact grouping of the historic commercial, institutional, industrial, and railroad-related resources and comprises 123 resources constructed circa 1867 to circa 1960 that include 75 contributing buildings, four contributing structures, nine National Register listed buildings, and 35 non-contributing buildings. Where once they shared the same distinctive characteristics with many buildings of their time; today many of these resources are important as lone survivors of their period of construction, functional, and/or architectural property type. Today as in the past, the district reflects the dense urban configuration typical of late 19th and early 20th century commercial areas in rural railroad market centers. Here as in other Midwestern market centers, the arrangement of the railroad grade dictated the location and arrangement of industrial buildings, commercial business houses, and residential neighborhoods, visually defining Abilene's built environment.

Architectural Significance

The Abilene Downtown Historic District also derives its significance from being a contiguous and unified entity, composed of a wide variety of architectural and functional resources. These resources represent the spectrum of building technology, design, stylistic features, form, and function that define the history of Abilene's downtown commercial center.



Above, 313 N. Buckeye, Abilene; 300 N. Broadway, Abilene.

Dating from the 1860s through the mid-20th century, most of the buildings found in the Abilene Downtown Historic District are simple load-bearing brick or limestone commercial buildings of one to three stories. The traditional building materials are red or buff brick and limestone. Approximately one-third of these buildings exhibit popular architectural styles from the period of their construction including Italianate, Gothic Revival, Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals, Classical Revival, Art Deco, Mission Revival, and Modern Movement styles. Other contributing resources include simple vernacular designs with various, and sometimes subtle, stylistic references, which retain architectural features and physical forms that reflect the then popular design trends.

The district also includes four significant structures—three grain elevators and the historic railroad alignment. The industrial and railroad freight buildings and structures are at



Left, 217 W. 1st, Abilene; 204 N. Cedar, Abilene.

the edge of the downtown retail area adjacent to and within the railroad right-of-way. Their design and materials are function-specific. Their builders utilized both traditional and new construction techniques and materials in a variety of combinations to create efficient, fireproof, functional space. Identified by their plan, size, and materials—brick, stone, tile, corrugated metal, and/or concrete construction—the vast majority of these buildings do not reference any architectural styles. Their period of construction, however, played an important role in the choice of plan, materials, and methods of construction.

Abilene's central business district is a unique assemblage of buildings and structures built by early pioneering bankers, land agents, and entrepreneurs who staked their future on the rapidly growing "new" town north of the Union Pacific rail lines. Joining these efforts in the 20th century were town leaders, business owners, and professionals influenced by the City Beautiful Movement who added early 20th century Revival-style civic buildings and businesses to the mixture of 19th century Victorian era architecture. The most dramatic change to the downtown came in the 1950s with the

construction of a sleek Modern Movement-style courthouse erected on the site of the historic county courthouse. Throughout both centuries, towering grain elevators and mills dominated and delineated the commercial center's boundaries. Despite two world wars and the Great Depression, Abilene's singular business district remained downtown, centered in the historical grid of streets anchored by the Union Pacific rail lines on the south and the city hall, library, and fire department complex on the north. To recognize nomination of Abilene's Downtown Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places is a crucial step in protecting one of the state's most storied railroad towns for future generations.

Contributing to this article are James D. Holland, AICP, community development director, Abilene Heritage Commission; and Sally Schwenk and Kerry Davis, preservation professionals, Sally Schwenk Associates, Inc.

Legislature Caps State Rehabilitation Tax Credits

Section 6 of 2009 House Bill 2365 amended K.S.A. 79-32,211, the provisions of the Kansas State Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program, by adding the following sentence: “In no event shall the total amount of credits allowed under this section exceed \$3,750,000 for fiscal years 2010 and 2011.” In order to implement this new cap on allowance of state historical rehabilitation tax credits for fiscal years 2010 (July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010) and 2011 (July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011), the following guidelines will apply.

1. Tax credit certificates issued by the Kansas Historical Society, or any certificates of transfer of such credits issued by the Kansas Historical Society, with respect to qualified historic rehabilitation projects that have been placed in service by June 15, 2009, and all written applications, forms and other documentation needed for issuance of such tax credits are submitted to the Kansas Historical Society by June 15, 2009, shall not be affected by the cap provisions in Section 6 of 2009 House Bill 2365 and will be fully allowed against outstanding tax liability.
2. For any qualified historic rehabilitation projects that are placed in service after June 15, 2009, or the necessary written applications, forms and other documentation with respect to a qualified historic rehabilitation project needed for issuance of tax credit certificates are submitted to the Kansas Historical Society after June 15, 2009, the fiscal year cap imposed in 2009 House Bill 2365 shall apply. Because the historic rehabilitation tax credit is nonrefundable (must be applied against existing tax liability) and any unused excess credit can be carried forward to future tax years for up to 10 years, experience has shown that on average, not more than 60 percent of the total credits issued in a given year will be allowed against actual tax liability, with the remaining balance being carried forward. For those historic rehabilitation projects subject to the cap as described above, the Kansas Historical Society will limit issuance of tax credit certificates to \$6.25 million per fiscal year during fiscal years 2010 and 2011. For any tax credit certificates that are issued, those tax credits are fully allowable against tax liability.
3. Qualified historic rehabilitation projects that had received approved Part 2 applications by June 15, 2009, with qualified rehabilitation expenditures (QRE) of greater than \$250,000 that are placed in service after June 15, 2009, and during state fiscal year 2010 will receive one third (1/3) of their earned credits in fiscal year 2010, one third in fiscal year 2011, and the remaining one third in fiscal year 2012. Projects in this category that are placed in service during state fiscal year 2011 will receive one third (1/3) of their earned credits in fiscal year 2011 and the remaining two thirds (2/3) in fiscal year 2012. This formula is based upon the current total amount of approved Part 2 QRE for projects over \$250,000: \$58,760,415.27. The total potential state credits for these projects is \$14,690,103. This amount divided by three equals a yearly credit issuance of \$4,896,701.
- 3a. The issuance of credits will be continuously monitored. If the targeted issuance of credits has not been met by the last month of the fiscal year, then completed projects over \$250,000 that had a Part 2 submitted, but not yet approved, by June 15, 2009, will be next in line for a 1/3 allocation of tax credits.
- 3b. The Kansas Historical Society will continue to accept and review new tax credit applications for projects over \$250,000 QRE after June 15, 2009; however, it is not anticipated that these projects will be issued tax credits prior to state fiscal year 2012.
4. Qualified historic rehabilitation projects that involve qualified expenditures of \$250,000 or less will be counted toward the fiscal year cap, but it is not expected that issuance of tax credit certificates with respect to such tax credits will need to be limited. The total approved Part 2 QRE for projects under \$250,000 is \$10,203,867, and the total potential credits for these projects is \$2,550,966. Past history and current knowledge of the open projects

(continued on page 11)

Revised Deadlines for Two Grant Programs

Application deadline dates for two grant programs administered by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will be changing this year. These changes will give grantees more time to complete the preliminary steps of the Heritage Trust Fund grant program before construction season is over.

Heritage Trust Fund (HTF) grant workshops are being held this summer for the 2010 round of grants. Preliminary applications are due by September 15, 2009. The deadline for final HTF applications is November 2, 2009. The 2010 HTF awards will be announced at the Historic Sites Board of Review's February 2010 meeting. Property owners may apply for HTF grants to preserve their historic property. Activities such as restoration of missing architectural elements and preservation of the exterior envelope of a building are eligible for this competitive reimbursement grant program. Find out more about the HTF grant program and download an application at kshs.org/resource/htfinfo.htm

A workshop for the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grant program is scheduled for October 8, 2009. Preliminary applications for HPF grants are due by February 1, 2010 and final applications are due by March 15, 2010. The 2010 HPF awards will be announced at the May 2010 meeting of the Historic Sites Board of Review. The HPF program assists local governments, historical societies, and other non-profits with preservation-related activities such as the survey of historic resources within a community, the preparation of a historic district nomination, and educational programs. See our website at kshs.org/resource/hpinfo.htm for more information as it becomes available in early autumn.

Questions? Contact Katrina Ringler,
grants manager, at 785-272-8681, ext. 215;
kringler@kshs.org

Legislature Caps State Rehabilitation Tax Credits *(continued from page 10)*

indicates that only one third of these projects are likely to be completed within the next fiscal year (\$850,322), which will place the total yearly issuance of credits at approximately \$5,747,023 for state fiscal years 2010 and 2011, leaving room within the cap to accommodate new projects under \$250,000.

5. For any historic rehabilitation tax credits that the Kansas Historical Society has determined were earned during tax years (generally same as the calendar year) 2009 and 2010 but for which no tax credit certificate was issued because of the cap, the Kansas Historical Society shall advise the person earning the credits in writing that such credits can

be claimed, beginning in tax year 2011, and the Kansas Historical Society will later issue tax credit certificates for such credits as appropriate. For projects that the Kansas Historical Society has limited the tax years when credits can be claimed due to the cap and for which tax credit certificates are issued effective for tax year 2011, the carryforward period shall begin in tax year 2011.

6. By law, the Kansas Historical Society is bound by the cap in House Bill 2365. The issuance of tax credits will be monitored continuously to ensure compliance. For this reason these guidelines are subject to change without notice.



Photo by Dan Rowlinson, Auburn.

Photo by Byron Strom, Des Moines, Iowa.

A Walk in the Park: Kansas Archeology Training Program Field School at Scott State Park

by **Bob Hoard**,

State Archeologist, Kansas Historical Society

One of the most scenic venues in Kansas—Scott State Park—was the setting for the 2009 Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school. In a way, this field school was a trip back to its roots—the very first KATP field school in 1975 was held here. While the first field school focused on excavation near a well-known and thoroughly excavated site, 14SC1, also known as the Scott County pueblo or El Cuartelejo (see *Kansas Heritage*, Summer 2006 or kshs.org/portraits/cuartelejo_el.htm), this year's project offered a multitude of opportunities.

The primary focus was to walk over as much of the park as possible, searching for new as well as previously recorded archeological sites. When the field school started, there were 26 known, recorded sites at the park. By the time we were finished, there were 58. Not only did we find many new sites, but we also discovered that while some of the previous sites had suffered damage, most were in good condition and also were larger—sometimes much larger—than previously thought.

The site survey approach wasn't chosen just for fun (though most of us would admit that the survey was fun, although difficult—more on that later). It was prompted by earlier

Left, Julian McDowell, Alexa Berens, and Melanie Naden of Wichita pause during the survey to enjoy the view from a high point; inset, Roger Ward of El Dorado and Alan Albers of Cunningham examine the ground surface for evidence of previous human occupation.

requests from the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to have professional archeologists visit specific areas of the park slated for improvements, such as water lines and cabins (that's right, cabins—check them out at kdwp.state.ks.us/news/State-Parks/Locations-With-Cabins). The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, being good stewards of the state's cultural resources, wanted to ensure that park activities would not affect important archeological sites and in 2008 asked the Kansas Historical Society to check proposed improvement locations. The staff archeologist visiting the proposed locations found site after site, though eventually a clear area was found and a cabin erected. This experience prompted the Historical Society, the Kansas Anthropological Association, and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to use the field school to provide a service to the park—to search as much of the park as thoroughly as possible to find any and all archeological sites. That way park employees would know what locations to build and what to avoid.

Given sufficient time and people, looking for archeological sites is pretty straightforward—line up about 10 feet apart and walk, watching the ground for items such as chipped stone tools or old medicine bottle glass (seeing a line of people with their heads hanging low might make an onlooker think they're seeing an outing for a depression-sufferers support group). This may sound easy, but try to get a line of 20 independent thinkers to keep set spacing while walking for a

few miles and you'll find that it takes some herding. When people are looking for cool stuff (not just the artifacts, but the blooming cactus, the mourning dove nests, the harvester ant nests, the rattlesnakes . . .), it becomes even more challenging. Add to that the terrain of the park, which is highly variable, from flat floodplains to rolling ridge tops with steep rocky slopes in between. In short, survey in the park turned out to be really tough sometimes but very rewarding. Despite one crew member stepping right on a coiled rattlesnake (he sized up the situation, took a big step sideways, and walked away) and another having a fall that led to a fractured wrist (she kept working anyway), most people just chugged along, including one 10 year old and one 82 year old.

What did we learn? Not only did we conduct the survey to clear areas for Kansas park visitors' facilities, we also wanted to know if there were sites where we didn't expect them. We've known forever that people used the land close to Ladder Creek (now dammed to form Lake Scott). The well-known Scott County pueblo is there, for example. But what about the surrounding high ridge tops or those steep rocky slopes? Were people willing to spend time up there, knowing they would have to scramble down the slope to get to water?

Archeologists call these unlikely spaces “low probability areas” because odds are that people didn't use them very much. Just like today, people like to camp where they can easily get to everything they need, so flat areas near water win out. In the past as well as the present, people also ventured out into other areas to watch for game or the approach of friends (or enemies) and to get things they didn't have at camp, like a little privacy, for example. For these reasons, we checked these unlikely areas (people got really sick of me reminding them about how important it is to look at the “low probability areas” as they struggled for footing on a 50-degree slope). As it turns out, we found sites in these areas—not many, but a few. For example, one of these sites is a little scattering of chipped stone artifacts just beneath the rocky ledge of a ridge top. It faced south and had a little flat spot that was just right for sitting in the sun on a cold morning while sharpening a stone scraping tool. A little charcoal at the base of the rock ledge suggested an overnight stay. Another site just off park property (several local landowners allowed us to survey on their property, leading to the discovery of nine new sites), was a scattering of bone (not human), stone tools, and the debris from manufacturing these tools. What is this

Photo by Dan Rowlinson, Auburn.



Alice Kreissler of Wichita, Byron Strom of Des Moines, Iowa, and Roger Ward of El Dorado record a site discovered on survey.

Left to right, biface fragment of local Smoky Hill silicified chalk; olivella shell beads from the west coast of North America; arrow point of Smoky Hill silicified chalk were found on survey and in test excavations.



Photo by Dan Rowlinson, Auburn.



Photo by Dan Rowlinson, Auburn.

site? Were some deer or bison killed and butchered here? Was it an upland camp, and if so, why is it on the ridge top instead of down below like the others?

This is where laboratory analysis comes in. While the survey was underway, the lab, located at Scott City High School, was busy cleaning, cataloging, and describing the artifacts, tasks that will help us put together the activities at the site as best we can. The lab worked not only on what was being collected at the park but on other significant collections as well (remember, not everyone thinks it's fun to play footsie with venomous snakes or scramble up and down cactus- and yucca-covered ledges of loose rock). Lab workers got to see the artifacts collected in the field without the omnipresent veneer of dirt and without having to squint through sweat dripping in their eyes.

Some of the artifacts are pretty impressive. On survey, a first-time KAA member found a dart point that is probably about 9,000 years old. We conducted some limited excavations on another site that yielded pottery decorated with buff, red, black, or white pigments; other potsherds contained sparkling mica. These are suggestive of pottery from the pueblos of the Southwest, though more careful analysis is needed to determine their origin for certain. Also found were

two little shell beads, which again, pending the results of more careful analysis, will almost surely be identified as olivella shells from the Baja region of California. These are trade goods. The prehistoric occupants of Scott County, Kansas, traded goods from the plains—probably bison products—for good-looking pottery and exotic shell ornaments.

There's more to tell. There were classes on historic architecture, artifact analysis, and excavation techniques and evening events such as a talk on the fossils of the Kansas Cretaceous, a tour of the El Cuartelejo Museum, and even one program featuring—like we needed to see more of them—snakes; trips to visit the site of a battle between the U.S. Army and the Northern Cheyenne, dugouts of the earliest Old World immigrants into the county, or an inexplicable cave dug deep into rock with 12 foot long vent holes. We worked on a Civilian Conservation Corps camp in a current park campground, conducted metal detector surveys, mapped sites with a laser-based instrument, and more. But maybe you just have to try it yourself and see what it's like. Suffice it to say, we learned a lot from this year's field school, that the pending analysis of artifacts and site locations will teach us even more, and that we had a good time doing it.

Second Life, Kansas Style

For 34 years, people have participated in the Kansas Archeology Training Program field school (or a little more succinctly, the KATP field school, or just the field school), which provides an opportunity for everyday folks to participate in something out of the ordinary, or maybe even extraordinary. Since joining the Kansas Historical Society in 2000, I've participated in eight KATP field schools, and each one has been interesting, engaging, and in some ways a departure from conventional life. This year's field school at Scott State Park was no exception. In fact, standing on a high ridge overlooking a crew of volunteers recording a site with Lake Scott in the background and wild turkeys courting to the side, it almost seemed like a departure from reality.



Bob Hoard, State Archeologist,
Kansas Historical Society

From their web site, <http://secondlife.com>:

"Second Life is a free online virtual world imagined and created by its residents. From the moment you enter Second Life, you'll discover a fast-growing digital world filled with people, entertainment, experiences and opportunity."

While many people may log on to add another dimension to their lives in places such as Second Life, I prefer to participate in activities that allow me the opportunity to view the real world from another angle. The KATP field school offers that opportunity. You find yourself among a wide variety of people that have taken leave of their normal lives to place themselves in what might be a completely foreign environment (the outdoors!) and participate in scientific data collection to learn about—yes—people from another time. Let all that sink in. Plus the participants not only have temporarily left their day-to-day lives, but in a way they've given themselves a chance to become someone else. Instead of being "Mom," Sherri might be a member of the excavation crew working to become certified in site recording and laboratory analysis, and her 13-year-old son might be sighting his compass on a ridge top 8 kilometers northeast so he can keep a steady bearing as he conducts a survey to find a new prehistoric campsite.

Okay, so Second Life is a lot more glamorous with its exotic avatars and islands created by residents that are the creation of Second Lifers' imaginations, but the KATP field school also offers a significant departure from normal life—and it's real. Give it a try. You might find out something about the past, something about Kansas, and something about yourself.



Photo by Brenda Culbertson, Mayetta.

Beth Good of Roseville, Minnesota, exposes pottery sherds during test excavations.

History in the Classroom:

Project Archaeology Workshop Exploring Migration to El Cuartelejo

by Lauren Ritterbush, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Kansas State University, and Brad Burenheide, Assistant Professor, College of Education, Kansas State University

The most recent Project Archaeology workshop in Kansas was held in Garden City in May. A national heritage education program for educators and their students, the three-day workshop was entitled “Digging for Understanding: Using Archaeology and History in the Classroom.” It focused on the recently released Kansas integrated reading unit *Migration of the Pueblo People to El Cuartelejo*, developed by the Kansas Historical Society (see *Kansas Preservation*, Spring 2009, page 23).



Project Archaeology migration curriculum for Kansas.

The workshop was sponsored by the Kansas Historical Society, the Equity and Access Grant administered by Kansas State University's College of Education, along with support from Garden City Community College, and the national Project Archaeology education program. Workshop facilitators, Lauren W. Ritterbush, associate professor of anthropology, and Brad Burenheide, assistant professor of secondary education, at Kansas State University, guided eight participants through the new Kansas curricular program. *Migration of the Pueblo People to El Cuartelejo*, written by consultant Calli Letts with detailed input from Historical Society archeologists Virginia Wulfkuhle and Bob Hoard, targets intermediate and middle level students studying Kansas history, archeology, or American Indians but also is especially appropriate for guided reading.

The workshop participants included teachers at all levels of experience, from a retired (but still practicing) teacher and well-established classroom and gifted educators to paraprofessionals pursuing training toward more advanced careers in education. Many came from the surrounding area, including Garden City, Dodge City, and Liberal, but also from Logan and Manhattan.

The first day of the workshop was geared toward explaining what archeologists study, a rudimentary understanding of how they analyze the past, and the discovery and archeological study of the western Kansas site of El Cuartelejo. The participants worked through the student magazine in conjunction with the student journal. The latter includes activities that review important concepts and lead students through inquiries, such as analyzing actual archeological data.



Workshop participants at the observation point overlooking the El Cuartelejo historic site.

The colorful and stimulating magazine and journal provide the framework for a guided exploration into the mysteries of El Cuartelejo. Additionally, the teacher guide provides useful suggestions for successfully incorporating technical aspects of archeology with sound pedagogical strategies.

During the second day of the workshop, participants developed an understanding of the history of El Cuartelejo and how that history is interpreted. This fascinating story began with Puebloan Indian encounters with Spaniards in present-day New Mexico starting in 1539 and continuing beyond the Pueblo Revolt of 1680. In reaction to Spanish treatment of the Pueblo Indians, Taos and Picuris Indians migrated to the plains on at least two different occasions.

After learning this historical background, the workshop participants explored different sources of information and perspectives on this story. The first was that of the Picuris Indians through their oral account of migration to the plains. The second historical source of information was the journal of Spaniard Juan de Ulibarrí. Those using this curriculum analyzed the actual primary historical document to gain experience in interpreting the past through written records. The work of the archeologist and historian was then brought together by integrating the various sets of information to understand Pueblo Indian migration to El Cuartelejo in western Kansas.

The workshop concluded its classroom instruction with a stimulating session discussing stewardship and civic responsibility. This involved activities and discussion about the importance of preserving cultural resources, including the site of El Cuartelejo.

While investigating the mystery of El Cuartelejo, participants used the curriculum to explore the story of

Herbert and Eliza Steele (who originally discovered and facilitated the preservation of the El Cuartelejo site), the findings of three main archeological excavations at the site, and oral and written histories relevant to understanding El Cuartelejo. The curriculum was designed to actively involve students with varied primary sources (archeological, oral, written) and the analysis of those data. They learned to synthesize new-found knowledge in ways that engage and promote critical thinking about the past (history) through the science of archeology.

With this background and specific knowledge about El Cuartelejo, a field trip to the site and its surroundings was made on the third and final day of the workshop. The preserved site is located in Scott State Park north of Scott City. The field trip began with a tour of the historic Herbert and Eliza Steele home. The Steeles were not only the original discoverers and stewards of El Cuartelejo, but also early homesteaders in the well-watered Ladder Creek valley where they and many generations of Indians before them developed different ways to make a living on the western plains. In order to gain a better feel for the environment to which the Puebloan Indians migrated, workshop participants trekked up the rocky hillside to an observation point and memorial to the Steele family. The panoramic view, along with linguistic insight from one of the workshop participants, gave those on the trip a great understanding of why the Spanish explorers called this El Cuartelejo.

The visit to the El Cuartelejo ruins allowed a review of the history of preservation of this site. The original efforts of



Teachers and facilitator involved in a group learning activity that explored the work of archeologists.

Herbert and Eliza Steele were continued through the acquisition of the El Cuartelejo site by the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). Two workshop participants were members of the DAR and updated the group on the current status of continuing efforts to protect and interpret this important National Historic Landmark. Viewing the reconstructed foundation of the El Cuartelejo pueblo allowed workshop participants to link their newly developed archeological and historical knowledge with a vivid picture of the pueblo nestled in this rocky, green valley.

The field trip ended at the El Cuartelejo Museum in Scott City. This relatively new facility presents intriguing information about the region and its people through a variety of well-designed exhibits. Of particular interest were those detailing the El Cuartelejo pueblo and Apache tribes with whom the Picuris lived while on the western plains of Kansas. The museum also provides information about the geology and ancient fossils of the region, early native peoples, the incursion of European settlers, and subsequent development of Scott County, its towns, schools, churches, industry, and people.

As one participant noted in her evaluation, the workshop was “a wonderful experience. There was great content, great discussion, and great resources.” Several participants praised the demonstration model of teaching and the overall design of the curriculum. “The hands-on activities were the most helpful! Plus, I liked how we actually worked through the book, as it would be done in our classroom.” The integration of archeological and pedagogical instruction was also appreciated. “I enjoyed the workshop from the start. Having



Workshop facilitator and archeologist Lauren Ritterbush (front center) poses in front of El Cuartelejo with the workshop participants attending the field trip.

an educator and actual archaeologist impacts the message even more.”

As a whole, the workshop was deemed a success. The participants were excited to have the background knowledge and means to bring the thrilling field of archeology into their classrooms. The careful integration of state standards in reading, writing, science, geography, and history makes this curriculum a true learning experience for students. This is accentuated through the focus on a historical phenomenon with local significance. In the exit survey, all the workshop participants indicated that they intend to implement this curriculum in their classrooms. One of the teachers had taken her students to the El Cuartelejo site at the end of the previous school year and now wished it could be redone based upon the new knowledge she had gained at the workshop. The experience stimulated participants and facilitators alike as “digging for understanding” brought enlightenment and useful materials for expanding the knowledge and critical thinking skills of Kansas students.

Authors Lauren W. Ritterbush and Brad Burenheide are trained Project Archaeology facilitators. Dr. Ritterbush is associate professor of anthropology at Kansas State University where she teaches undergraduate courses in archeology and conducts research in plains archeology. She has a special interest in El Cuartelejo after serving as a consultant for Scott City’s El Cuartelejo Museum during its exhibit planning stages in 1997.

Dr. Burenheide is assistant professor in the College of Education at Kansas State University where he is coordinator of the Secondary Social Studies Program.



Terry Healy and Bonnie Raff, members of the Kansas DAR and workshop participants, pose with the original DAR monument at El Cuartelejo.

Waldo Wedel's Archeological Sites in Kansas: Then and Now

This article was originally presented at the Plains Anthropological Conference in Laramie, Wyoming. It does not examine Waldo Wedel's career, as that has been done (and done well) in a number of other publications. Rather, it examines Wedel's legacy on the ground in Kansas by looking at some of the archeological sites where he worked.

by Tim Weston

State Historic Preservation Office Archeologist, Kansas Historical Society

Photo courtesy Wally Wedel.



A young Waldo Wedel during a 1930s field project in Nebraska.

Waldo Wedel was born in 1908 in North Newton. As a young man, he chose archeology as a profession at a time when those making a living as archeologists made up a very small group indeed. He, in fact, received the first anthropology degree with an emphasis in archeology ever awarded by the University of California at Berkeley. Waldo Wedel became one of the most preeminent archeologists of the 20th century, specializing in the archeology of the central plains. He is best known for his many professional accomplishments and long list of significant publications contributed during his career at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

A lesser-known fact is that one of his close childhood friends was Emil Haury, with whom he hunted for archeological sites along Sand Creek. Emil Haury also turned out to be a major figure in 20th century archeology, with a specialty in the archeology of the Southwest and a long career

at the University of Arizona. Their childhood association is being acknowledged by the city of North Newton in a planned series of interpretive panels placed along a walking trail near where they looked for sites on Sand Creek. As an example of just how small a profession archeology still is, both of the author's graduate advisors, Dave Breternitz at the University of Colorado and Al Johnson at the University of Kansas, were students of Emil Haury.

In the late 1930s a young Waldo Wedel, just beginning his career at the Smithsonian, began a program of archeological research in Kansas. At that time Kansas, along with much of the central plains, had seen little archeological research and was poorly understood. Wedel undertook analysis of existing collections as well as test excavations at sites across the state. His results were presented in *An Introduction to Kansas Archeology*, published by the Smithsonian Institution as Bulletin 174 of the Bureau of American Ethnology. It remains one of the best known and most widely cited among his dozens of publications. The volume has been out of print for many years but is still available from libraries and rare book dealers. Kansas' archeological research has, of course, continued all the years since, but despite the passage of half a century since its publication, *An Introduction to Kansas Archeology* is still a useful resource.

The legacy of Wedel's research in Kansas is clear to this day. It brought attention to a little-known area, and publication of his results in a widely disseminated volume stimulated additional work. That good work continues today. Along with additional research though, there were other good consequences. Not the least among them is an enduring legacy of good relations between professional archeologists, landowners, and avocational archeologists, coupled with a



Far left, visitors to the Whiteford site cemetery shortly after its opening; left, Neodesha Fort earthwork remnant in the 1930s, visible near figure standing in center of photo.

genuine concern for archeological resources among members of the public.

Most archeologists and those interested in the field know Wedel's Kansas sites only from the black and white photos in his publications. Those of us who work in Kansas know them as actual physical locations. Most still exist today, and all have a worthwhile story to tell about early research and its long-term consequences. Out of the many sites Wedel worked at, four have been chosen for discussion here, two from which he analyzed collections and two where he conducted excavations. They are: (1) Neodesha Fort (14WN1) in Wilson County, (2) Whiteford (14SA1) in Saline County, (3) El Cuartelejo (14SC1) in Scott County, (4) and Tobias (14RC8) in Rice County.

Neodesha Fort site was a unique semicircular earthwork of

probable 18th century Great Bend Aspect (ancestral Wichita) cultural affiliation situated on the east side of the Verdigris River in Wilson County. Thomas Gale, an oil producer from nearby Neodesha, spent several years during the 1930s carefully documenting the site. He was able to document remnants of the earthwork, a portion of which was at that time clearly visible within an oil tank facility. He wrote to several prominent archeologists of the day, informing them of his findings. Alone among them, Waldo Wedel answered Gale's letters. He visited the site and published a detailed description in *An Introduction to Kansas Archeology*.

The site was investigated most recently in the early 1990s in conjunction with a highway project. At that time the author was relatively new to archeological fieldwork in Kansas. He noted that one of the first things mentioned by



Guy and Mabel Whiteford and their son, Jay Dee, in an excavated Smoky Hill Phase house at the Whiteford site.



The Whiteford site cemetery today.



Excavation of a shallow Smoky Hill Phase house floor at site 14SA15 near Salina in 1971.

the landowners was their recollection of Waldo Wedel's visit and his involvement with the site on their property. Though less common now with the passage of time, such memories of his work in the state are uniformly positive. A brief article was ultimately produced, describing site conditions and presenting archival information not available to Wedel.

Today, cultivation, county road expansion, and removal of the oil tank facility have obliterated all surface and subsurface evidence of the earthwork. Featureless cultivated fields now dominate the site's location. Earthworks such as Neodesha Fort are rare in Kansas and other parts of the central plains. This example, and all of the effort expended by a dedicated avocational archeologist, would have been entirely lost if not for the efforts of Waldo Wedel.

Whiteford is one of the best known sites in Kansas, since the American Indian cemetery contained within it was the centerpiece of a tourist attraction (known as the Indian Burial Pit) from 1936 until 1989. Many people remember this site, a National Historic Landmark, since it was prominently advertised for years along nearby Interstate Highway 70 east

of Salina. What is not widely known is that the cemetery was part of a prehistoric Smoky Hill Phase site, portions of which were excavated by Guy and Mabel Whiteford of Salina assisted by their son, Jay Dee. Waldo Wedel knew the Whitefords, visited the site, and presented a description of the cemetery in *An Introduction to Kansas Archeology*. While there were other publications, Wedel's summary brought widespread professional and avocational attention to the site.

By the late 1980s times and attitudes had changed and displays of human remains were closing all over the country. As part of that process a government-to-government agreement, predating both federal and state unmarked burial legislation, was negotiated and signed between the state of Kansas and the Pawnee Nation. Under its terms, the cemetery and tourist attraction were purchased by the state and closed. After a 30-day period of in-place study of human remains by the Kansas Historical Society, representatives of the Pawnee Nation reburied the cemetery. Today, in a setting very different from its days as a roadside tourist attraction, the site exists in quiet obscurity among the woods and fields near I-70.

A comprehensive report of investigations at the Whiteford site has recently been completed by Dr. Donna C. Roper. As the report points out, the impact of such displays at archeological sites cannot be underestimated. Even though the site's tourist attraction closed 20 years ago, it is clearly recalled by local residents and visitors alike and is still mentioned to archeologists working in the area. A wide spectrum of the public visited the site over the years, including some who went on to become professional archeologists. The author, for example, visited the site as a young grade school student during the 1960s.

One of the long-term consequences of Waldo Wedel's involvement with this site was that avocational archeologists in the region were inspired to conduct research of their own. Among them were long-time Kansas Anthropological Association members Harold and Margie Reed. Harold ultimately undertook a decades-long survey of Smoky Hill Phase sites along the Smoky Hill and Saline valleys near Salina. Several were tested, revealing very shallow house floors. Those test results, along with Harold's well-documented collections, now constitute the only evidence for such sites since recent surveys have revealed that virtually all were destroyed by sustained cultivation in the intervening years. In this and other examples from the Whiteford site vicinity, Waldo Wedel's legacy of research has been sustained.



El Cuartelejo (14SC1) along the floor of the Ladder Creek valley in Scott State Park as it appeared in 1971.

El Cuartelejo, also known as the Scott County Pueblo, contains Puebloan and Dismal River Apache components and is contained within the El Cuartelejo Archeological District, a National Historic Landmark. The central feature is the ruin of a seven-room pueblo structure occupied during the late 17th or early 18th centuries. It was constructed by a refugee group from the northern Rio Grande valley who fled onto the plains to escape conflict with the Spaniards in the aftermath of the Pueblo Revolt of 1680. Many of the Kansas sites where Waldo Wedel worked are privately owned and not available for visitation. This site by contrast is situated in the High Plains of western Kansas along Ladder Creek within Scott State Park where the public is encouraged to visit.

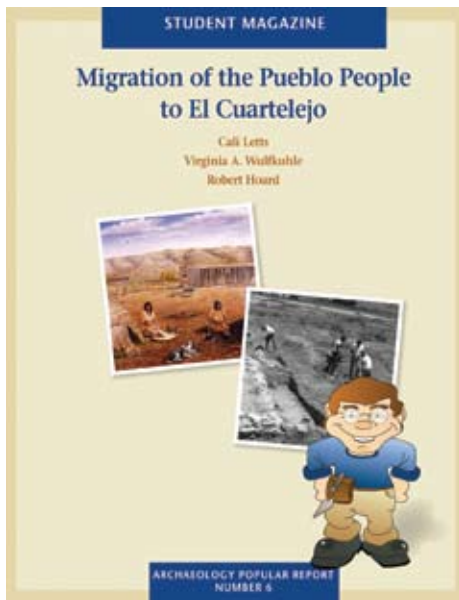
The El Cuartelejo ruins have been known since the earliest European-American settlement of western Kansas. The site was first excavated in the 1890s by two paleontologists from the University of Kansas. Other small-scale investigations followed, until Waldo Wedel worked at the site in 1939 during his Kansas research program. He conducted excavations in the midden or trash areas near the ruin, and published his results in *An Introduction to Kansas Archeology*. In the early 1970s State Archeologist Tom Witty chose the site for the inaugural Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) excavation, at least in part because of Wedel's earlier investigations. After the KATP excavations had been completed, the foundations of the ruin were stabilized. The site actually belongs to the Daughters of the American

Revolution (DAR) but is managed by the staff at Scott State Park as an interpretive exhibit. While the foundations of the ruin have suffered from erosion in the years since stabilization, the structure's outline and setting are clearly visible. Long-term plans for the site include construction of a museum similar to that at Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site in Republic County.

Waldo Wedel's work at El Cuartelejo was not the earliest at the site, but it was the most widely disseminated, bringing further research attention to a unique occupation. Professional investigations have continued, as have public education efforts. As an example of its importance to public education, the site was chosen for the migration unit in Project Archaeology, a nationwide heritage education



El Cuartelejo ruins in Scott State Park.



Project Archaeology migration unit focusing on El Cuartelejo.

program sponsored by the Bureau of Land Management, the Society for American Archaeology, the Kansas Historical Society, and many other organizations.

Numerous recorded sites of both the prehistoric and historic periods are present along the Ladder Creek Valley in and near Scott State Park. Research at those sites is ongoing. For example, the historic site Battle of Punished Woman's Fork was recently listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Much of this interest in the area is due, at least in part, to Waldo Wedel's investigations at El Cuartelejo.

There is probably no site in Kansas more associated with Waldo Wedel than Tobias. He conducted extensive excavations at this Great Bend Aspect (ancestral Wichita) site over several field seasons in the 1960s. The site represents the remains of a substantial village and contains a council circle,

a large semi-circular structure made up of oblong depressions. He reported the results in (among other venues) *An Introduction to Kansas Archeology*. Tobias is part of a large complex of Great Bend Aspect sites along the Little Arkansas River in Rice County, many of which are contained within the Tobias-Thompson Archeological District, a National Historic Landmark. While there were additional publications dealing with Tobias and the other nearby sites, Wedel's investigation brought professional and avocational attention to the area. The site was ultimately purchased by the state of Kansas and is managed today by the Kansas Historical Society. Though in public ownership, it is undeveloped and not available for visitation. The site is covered with pasture grasses and, along with the surrounding area, has seen little change since Wedel's time.

The Tobias site, along with those nearby, is best known for the discovery of Spanish artifacts and for Wedel's conclusion that they were the villages described in the Coronado journals as Quivira. Extensive investigations were conducted at the site in the 1970s and 1980s under the direction of the Kansas Historical Society.

Work at Tobias has had an enduring effect on research as well as on relationships with the general public in the area. Wedel's Rice County fieldwork continued until 1969, and he visited the area for a decade thereafter. While living memory of Wedel's work has largely been lost in other parts of the state, it continues today in Rice County. Older members of many local families still remember him, and speak highly of the work he conducted on their properties. Those researchers who followed Wedel have nurtured that good relationship. Perhaps the best example involves recent work at 14RC410, a Great Bend Aspect site near the city of Little River, a few miles from Tobias. The site was to be impacted by a sewage lagoon project, and funding for the necessary excavations was scarce.



Far left, Waldo Wedel's 1965 Smithsonian excavations in the council circle at the Tobias site; left, prairie management at the Tobias site.

The city of Little River and the Coronado-Quivira Museum in Lyons stepped forward and provided substantial support, both logistical and monetary, in order to see the project through. While there were some legal requirements for the city, both it and the museum acted primarily out of concern for the preservation of what they saw as the community's shared cultural heritage. An indication of the level of local support was evident during excavations when hundreds of visitors, many from the local area, toured the site and volunteered to work on the crew. Another example of that good relationship is the recent donation by the Hayes family of a large well-documented Great Bend Aspect collection to the Coronado-Quivira Museum.

Many of Waldo Wedel's research conclusions have been superceded by more recent research, but others have held up well. Beyond those research conclusions though, his legacy lives on in research being conducted today. It also lives on in its enduring effect on relationships with avocational archeologists and with the general public.

Suggestions For Further Reading

Hoard, Robert J., and William E. Banks (editors) 2006 *Kansas Archaeology*. University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.

Roper, Donna C.

2006 *The Whiteford Site, or Indian Burial Pit: A Smoky Hill Phase Cemetery in Saline County*. Anthropological Series Number 18. Kansas Historical Society, Topeka.

Wedel, Waldo R.

1959 *An Introduction to Kansas Archeology*. Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 174. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.



Top, State Archeologist Tom Witty, left, with Mildred and Waldo Wedel at the Tobias site in 1977; above, Hayes collection on display at the Coronado-Quivira Museum in Lyons.

New Cultural Resources Staff Member



John Tomasic obtained his bachelor's in anthropology at Kansas State University, his master's in anthropology at the University of Kansas, and he recently received his doctorate in anthropology at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. He is a Kansas native and has participated in and led numerous prehistoric and historic archeological

excavations throughout the state. In addition, John has extensive field experience at Maya archeological sites in Central America. Since returning to Kansas, John has become actively involved in the historic preservation of Strawberry Hill area of downtown Kansas City, Kansas.

Historic Sites Board of Review

The Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review is a group of 11 professionals from various fields that meets quarterly to review and recommend nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and the Register of Historic Kansas Places, and award preservation planning and rehabilitation grants. As prescribed by the Kansas Historic Preservation Act of 1977 (K.S.A. 75-2719), the board is comprised of the following members: the governor or the governor's designee, the state historic preservation officer or such officer's designee, and nine members appointed by the governor for three-year terms. At least one member must be professionally qualified in each of the following disciplines: architecture, history, prehistoric archeology, historical archeology, and architectural history.

Jennie Chinn, State Historic Preservation Officer
Craig Crosswhite, Ness City, chair
J. Eric Engstrom, Wichita, governor's designee, vice chair
John W. Hoopes, Lawrence
Nancy Horst, Winfield
Leo Oliva, Stockton
Billie Marie Porter, Neodesha
Daniel Sabatini, Lawrence
David H. Sachs, Manhattan
James E. Sherow, Manhattan
Margaret Wood, Topeka

Cultural Resources Division State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Archeology Staff

Jennie Chinn
Preservation Officer (SHPO)
785-272-8681, ext. 205
jchinn@kshs.org

Rick Anderson
National Register Historian
785-272-8681, ext. 228
randerson@kshs.org

Dorothy Booher
Office Assistant
785-272-8681, ext. 230
dbooher@kshs.org

Chris Garst
Laboratory Archeologist
785-272-8681, ext. 151
cgarst@kshs.org

Bob Hoard
State Archeologist
785-272-8681, ext. 269
rhoard@kshs.org

Michelle Holmes
Administrative Assistant
785-272-8681, ext. 230
mholmes@kshs.org

Kristen Johnston
State Tax Credit Coordinator
785-272-8681, ext. 213
kjohnston@kshs.org

Marsha Longofono
Tax Credit Clerk
785-272-8681, ext. 233
mlongofono@kshs.org

Sarah Martin
National Register Coordinator
785-272-8681, ext. 216
smartin@kshs.org

Caitlin Meives
Survey Coordinator
785-272-8681, ext. 257
cmeives@kshs.org

Kim Norton Gant
Review and Compliance
Coordinator
785-272-8681, ext. 225
kgant@kshs.org

Katrina Ringler
Grants Manager/CLG Coordinator
785-272-8681, ext. 215
kringler@kshs.org

Kimberly Smith
Grants Reviewer
785-272-8681, ext. 227
ksmith@kshs.org

John Tomasic
Archeologist
785-272-8681, ext. 258
jtomasic@kshs.org

Cindi Vahsholtz
Grants Clerk
785-272-8681, ext. 245
cvahsholtz@kshs.org

Tricia Waggoner
Highway Archeologist
785-272-8681, ext. 267
twaggoner@kshs.org

Julie Weisgerber
Federal Tax Credit Coordinator
785-272-8681, ext. 226
jweisgerber@kshs.org

Tim Weston
SHPO Archeologist
785-272-8681, ext. 214
tweston@kshs.org

Virginia Wulfkuhle
Public Archeologist
785-272-8681, ext. 266
vwulfkuhle@kshs.org

Patrick Zollner
Division Director &
Deputy SHPO
785-272-8681, ext. 217
pzollner@kshs.org

CONTACT US



6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka KS 66615-1099

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TOPEKA KS
PERMIT NO 157

Happenings in Kansas

Online at kshs.org/calendar

Through November 8, 2009

Lincoln in Kansas

Exhibit at the Kansas Museum of History, Topeka

September 7, 2009

Labor Day, offices closed

September 11-12, 2009

Applefest

Grinter Place State Historic Site, Kansas City

September 12-13, 2009

Kansas Anthropological Association Fall Fling

Winslow Site, Salina

September 14-16, 2009

National Preservation Institute

Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

September 19-20, 2009

Freedom Festival

John Brown Museum State Historic Site, Osawatomie

September 24-26, 2009

Bald Eagle Rendezvous

Constitution Hall State Historic Site, Lecompton

September 26, 2009

KAA Mud Creek Chapter Artifact Identification Day

Old Mill Museum, Lindsborg

October 10-11, 2009

Fall Festival

Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site, Fairway

October 24, 2009

Graveside Conversations

Fort Hays State Historic Site, Hays

November 6, 2009

KSHS, Inc., Annual Meeting

Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

Join the Preserving Kansas listserv under Historic Preservation at kshs.org.